Director of Public Instruction should organize a cadre of specialists for the staffing of the college at a very early date; and

(b) if so, whether they will call for information from the Director of Public Instruction as to what his proposals are?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The present staff is competent and there is no necessity to organize a cadre of specialists.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether this decision of the Government has been communicated to the Syndicate of the Andhra University and, if so, when?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Notice."

Proposed amendment of the rules under the Elementary Education Act.

*833 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the Government propose to make an additional rule that no library books shall be purchased for the school unless they have been approved by the District Educational Officer or the Inspectress of Girls' Schools concerned; and

(b) on whose advice do the Government propose to make such a rule?

A.—(a) The Government consider that they should have some control over the reading matter supplied to elementary schools receiving aid from public revenues, and that the inspecting officers are in the best position to advise local bodies and other managements of elementary schools as to what books will be most useful in those schools and how best the limited funds available can be utilized.

(b) On the advice of the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government consider the presidents of the local boards incompetent to recommend books for use in the libraries of elementary schools?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not a question of competency; we think that the District Educational Officer will be the better authority."

Distribution of boarding grants for Indian orphanages.

*834-A Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state, with reference to the answer given to clause (b) of question No. 1111 answered on 4th November 1927 regarding the distribution of the boarding grants for Indian orphanages whether the information referred to therein has been received and if so, what it is?

A.—Of the 5,072 children for whom boarding grants were given in 1926–27, 225 were Hindus, 188 Muhammadans and 4,659 Indian Christians.

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Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether Government will consider the advisability of the distribution of boarding grants among the Hindu orphans on the advice of the heads of the institutions since no Hindu orphanage exists ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No, Sir, these grants are for orphanages."

Cost of housing and boarding for Indian orphans.

*834-B Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer given to question No. 427 answered on 9th October 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the average estimated approximate expenditure for housing and boarding Indian orphans in the several institutions mentioned in the answer is ; and

(b) what proportion of it Government have decided to pay in the coming year ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The Government grant does not represent any definite proportion of the boarding charges incurred by the orphanage. In accordance with the usual procedure, the total allotment will be distributed *pro rata* among the eligible children.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Is it a fact that no inquiry was made as to the capacity of the different institutions to look after the orphanages, and that money is given in a haphazard fashion . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is asking for an opinion."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know on what principle money is distributed among the orphanages ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have examined the question and found that the money given is not sufficient."

Local Boards

Introduction of the Bill to amend the Local Boards Act.

*835 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Local Boards Act Amending Bill was circulated to all the district and taluk boards in the Presidency ;

(b) how many of these local bodies favoured the introduction of the proposed measure and how many expressed their disapproval of the same ; and

(c) whether he has decided to introduce the Bill, and, if so, when ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The replies so far received show that eight taluk boards are in favour of the Bill and twelve district boards and fifty-one taluk boards against it. The remaining district and taluk boards have not offered their remarks on the Bill as a whole.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (e) of question No. 719.